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CURRENT SUPPORT MEMORANDUM

RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION GOAL IN SIXTH
FIVE YEAR PLAN DIRECTIVES IS MISLEADING

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This report represents the immediate views of the
originating intelligence components of the Office
of Research and Reports. Comments are solicited.

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION GOAL IN SIXTH
FIVE YEAR PLAN DIRECTIVES IS MISLEADING

The directives of the 20th Congress of the CPSU for the Sixth Five Year Plan state that it is necessary, "To build approximately 6,500 kilometers of new railways; that is, twice as much as in the course of the Fifth Five Year Plan. /This includes/ the lines Magnitogorsk - Sterlitamak - Abdulino, Kurgan - Sinarskaya-Rayon of Krasnoufimsk, Barnaul - Omsk, Stalinsk - Abakan, Guryev - Astrakhan, Miass - Uchaly, Yesil - Turgay. /It is planned/ to build the railway line from the rayon of Alma-Ata to the state frontier...." 1/

A recent article in Gudok, 12 February 1956, indicates that the figure of 6,500 kilometers of new lines to be built, while technically correct, is misleading. First, this figure represents total track--main line plus yards and sidings--and not point-to-point distance; second, the 6,500 kilometers of new lines are to be completed (i.e., accepted for operation by the Ministry of Railways) though not necessarily built during the Sixth Five Year Plan. Of the lines noted in the Gudok article, several have already undergone major construction, and one, the Taishet - Bratsk - Ust-Kut line, has been open for temporary operation since October 1954. 2/ It is normal Soviet practice to officially add new lines to the system only when they have been accepted for operation by the Ministry of Railways. Acceptance by Ministry of Railways may take place several years after a line first starts limited operations.

The following table lists the railroads scheduled for completion during the Sixth Five Year Plan and gives their route kilometrage, track kilometrage* and lengths of sections already completed.

* Track Kilometrage includes main line track plus sidings and yards.

Railroad Construction Scheduled for Sixth Five Year Plan

<u>Lines Scheduled For Completion In Sixth FYP 3/</u>	<u>Route Kilo- metrage</u>	<u>Est. Track Kilo- metrage a/</u>	<u>Lengths of Lines Completed</u>
Yesil - Turgay	368 b/	460	--
Miass - Uchaly	98 4/	123	--
Uchaly - Magnitogorsk	121 5/	151	--
Mikun - Koslan	165 5/	206	--
Alma-Ata Rayon (Aktogay)- USSR Border	325 b/	406	--
Kisel - Perm (Molotov)	165 5/	206	100 5/
Achinsk - Yeniseysk	335 5/	419	--
Taishet - Bratsk - Ust-Kut	578 b/	700 6/	700 6/
Stalinsk - Abakan	400 4/	500	165 7/
Omsk - Karasuk - Barnaul	750 4/	938	--
Kustanay - Tobol'	94 5/	118	--
Sinarskaya (Kamensk- Ural'skiy)-Rayon of Krasnoufimsk(Druzhinino)	320 4/	400	--
Magnitogorsk - Abdulino	500 4/	625	105 8/
Agryz - Pronino - Surgut 9/	363 b/	454	100 10/
Sukozero - Yushkozero (West Karelian Line)	200 11/	250	--
Guryev - Astrakhan	385 5/	481	--
TOTAL	5,167	6,437	1,170

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- a. 25% added to route kilometrage to cover yards and sidings.
- b. Length measured on a large scale map with 10% added to compensate for measuring errors.

In addition to the railway lines noted in the preceding table, plans have been made to complete 935 kilometers of narrow gauge railway in the virgin lands area. 12/

Other lines probably will be started and possibly completed during the Sixth Five Year Plan. Since such lines, however, are not called for in the Sixth Five Year Plan, they might be accepted for operation by the Ministry of Railways during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Two lines in this category, tentatively planned, are: Polunochnoye - Labytnangi and Bolshoi Never - Chulman. 13/

Analysts:

1. FBIS, Daily Report, USSR and Eastern Europe; 17 Jan 56, p CC-35, OFF USE
2. CIA. FBIS Economic Item No. 14622, Moscow, Home Service, 2 Nov 54, OFF USE
3. Gudok, No. 36, 12 Feb 56, p 3, U
4. Gudok, No. 36, Ibid.
5. CIA. FDD Summary No. 763, 22 Dec 55, p 5, (Speech of L. M. Kaganovich at Conference of Builders of Ministry of Transport Construction USSR), OFF USE
6. CIA. FBIS Economic Item No. 14622, Moscow Home Service, 2 Nov 54, OFF USE
7. Gudok, No. 16, 20 Jan 56, p 1, U
AIR, IR-522-55, D-297671, (Pravda, 18 Jun 55), C
8. Gudok, No. 36, 12 Feb 56, p 3, U
9. CIA. FBIS Economic Item No. 100484, Tallinn, 20 Aug 55, OFF USE
10. CIA. FDD Summary No. 506, 20 May 55, p 7, OFF USE
11. Gudok, 9 Feb 56, p 1, U
12. Gudok, No. 37, 14 Feb 56, p 2, U
13. Izvestiya, 3 Feb 56, p 2, U

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RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION INCLUDED IN SIXTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN

- New single track line
- Electrification of existing line
- Double tracking of existing line
- Existing line, single and double track (selected)

